

BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, July 20, 2022

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the Milan High School Theater located at 200 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on July 20, 2022.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Kiger, Moccio, Heikka, Faro, Frait

Board Members Absent: Rosen-Leacher

Signed in Staff: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Yvette Kashmer

Signed in Guests: Karen Lambert, Lefiest Galimore, William Henderson, Amy Landingham, Jennifer Bolanos, Gwendolyn LaCroix, James Payne, Alibeth Vandergrift, David Walkowiak, Rachel Hobbs, George Elder, Alecia Powell, Elizabeth Satterly, Jayme McElvany, Janet McFall, Ashley St. Clair

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

- Lefiest Galimore provided the Board with information relative to the Washtenaw Educational Metrics Institute.
- Rachel Hobbs commented on the meeting minutes, including expenses in the meeting packet, and school security.
- Beth Vandergrift commented on the Patriot Freedom Book Club.
- Jayme McElvany read excerpts from books she believes should not be included in the libraries of Milan Area Schools.
- George Elder read excerpts from books he believes should not be included in the libraries of Milan Area Schools.
- Gwen LaCroix spoke in favor of not removing certain books from the libraries of Milan Area Schools.
- Janet McFall spoke in favor of removing certain books from the English curriculum.

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the corrected minutes of the Workshop meeting of May 24, 2022. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Frait, Cislo, and Heikka discussed the new process for including the names of attendees in future meeting minutes.

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the minutes of the Workshop meeting of June 22, 2022. All Ayes. Carried 5-1 No vote by Frait

Frait expressed concern related to the meeting minutes.

Heikka expressed concern related to tabling the meeting minutes and clarified the Open Meetings Act and MASB guidelines related to meeting minutes.

Cislo made suggestions related to future meeting minutes related to the Superintendent's comments.

Motion by Faro supported by Moccio to approve the bills/reimbursement of expenses.

All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Faro spoke in favor of the bills/reimbursement of expenses.

Motion by Kiger supported by Faro to adopt the following resolutions:

A. To name JP Morgan Chase/Chase Bank, United Bank and Trust, Fifth Third Bank, US Bank, Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund, Bank of NY Mellon, First Merchants Bank, and MBIA Michigan Class as depositories for General Fund, Payroll, Debt Retirement, Trust and Agency, Food Service, Athletic, and Internal Accounts for district moneys for the 2022-2023 fiscal year and that the following staff members' signatures be attached to the respective accounts as listed:

- * General Fund, Payroll & Invoice, Debt Retirement, Food Service, Trust and Agency, Athletics – Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Finance Director
- * High School – MHS Principal, MHS Assistant Principal, and Superintendent
- * Middle School – MMS Principal, MMS Assistant Principal, and Superintendent
- * Symons Elementary – Symons Principal, Finance Director, and Superintendent
- * Paddock Elementary School – Paddock Principal, Finance Director, and Superintendent

Be it further moved that the superintendent or designee is authorized to transfer funds from savings to checking and checking to savings and is authorized to buy time savings certificates and invest district monies in accordance with state and/or federal law and Board Policy.

B. To designate the Superintendent or designee to post notices of meetings.

C. That the law firm of Thrun Law Firm, P.C., be retained as the district's legal counsel for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Further moved that the Superintendent is authorized to extend the retainer relationship with Thrun Law Firm, P.C. for one year upon its anniversary date. Further moved that other legal counsel may be retained for specific purposes, as needed.

D. To approve the appointments listed below:

1. Voting Delegates to MASB Cislo, Moccio.
2. Alternate voting Delegates to MASB Frait, Heikka

All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Frait commented on retaining Thrun Law Firm.

Moccio spoke in favor of Thrun Law Firm.

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the Annual Loan Activity Application Resolution for borrowing from the School Loan Revolving Fund as presented in Attachment A.

All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Faro spoke in favor of Superintendent Girbac's description of the School Loan Revolving Fund.

Motion by Heikka supported by Moccio to approve the USAC E-rate Purchases as presented in Attachment B. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Moccio supported by Kiger to approve the Student Device Purchases as presented in Attachment C. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Heikka asked a clarifying question related to the device purchase.

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to approve the Social Studies Curriculum Purchases as presented in Attachment D. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Assistant Superintendent McMahon made a presentation related to the proposed Social Studies Curriculum.

Cislo, Heikka, Kiger, and Moccio asked clarifying questions related to the proposed Social Studies Curriculum.

Motion by Moccio supported by Kiger to appoint the following people to the teaching positions listed and Base Salaries listed effective for the 2022-2023 School Year.

- * Rachel Staley - Paddock SW (\$47,000)
- * Kathryn West - Paddock Speech Pathologist (\$70,418)
- * Craig McMahon - Paddock First Grade (\$44,798)
- * Breanna Wisnewski - Symons TC (\$57,609)
- * Emma Packard - Symons TC (\$40,500)
- * Sierra Moran - MMS STEAM (\$42,700)
- * Christina Rankin - MMS Science (\$40,500)
- * Krista Learman - MMS TC (\$52,448)

All Ayes. Carried 5-1 No vote by Frait

Frait sought clarification on the appointments and commented on the use of ESSR III funds to maintain staff levels and impact to the budget..

Heikka clarified the use limitations of ESSR III funds.

The Board heard a Communications Committee update presented by Karen Lambert

Superintendent Girbach presented to the Board a Scorecard update as included in Attachment E

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to not allow live streaming comments during public meetings. All Ayes. Carried 5-1 No vote by Frait

Heikka spoke in favor of not allowing live streaming comments during public meetings.

Frait expressed concern for allowing comments on Facebook but not allowing them on YouTube.

Faro spoke in favor of adhering to the provided legal opinion.

Cislo clarified a portion of the legal opinion provided.

The Board discussed Big Red Board Chats

Motion by Faro supported by Moccio to approve the land easement agreement as presented in Attachment F. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Kiger sought clarification related to the proposed easement related to ownership.

Frait sought clarification related to the proposed easement related to timing.

Public Comments

- Janet McFall expressed concern related to excerpts of books read during the previous public comment.
- Alecia Powell expressed concern related to excerpts of books read during the previous public comment.
- Amy Landingham expressed concern related to removing books from the school libraries, frustration related to the amount of time spent discussing meeting minutes, and encouraged the Board to seek addresses of speakers to identify those who live in the district and those that do not.
- Jayme McElvany spoke in favor of removing books she believes are inappropriate from libraries within Milan Area Schools.
- Rachel Hobbs spoke in favor of the Big Red Board Chats, questioned the Board's concern related to YouTube comments, but not comments made in an open meeting, asked for a High School Newsletter, concerns related to the meeting minutes, concerns related to questions posed to potential Board members during the candidate selection process.
- Ashley St. Clair provided an update on events hosted by Milan Parks and Recreation.

Superintendent's Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Free and reduced lunch applications
- Free preschool (GSRP)
- The FCI graduation ceremony
- The passing of Gerald Cook
- The state filing deadline for Board candidates
- Betty Rosen-Leachers acceptance of office and oath of office
- The K12 Insight school quality survey for parents, campus-based staff, and students

Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Grant updates
- Administrative training

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Faro welcomed Betty Rosen-Leacher to the Board, discussed the upcoming audit, the State of Michigan's passed Education Budget, and the MASB conference in October, and thanked the Communication Committee members for their work.
- Board Member Heikka requested updates on previous ELA purchases, remembered Gerald Cook, spoke about school safety, and thanked the Communications Committee for their work.
- Board Member Kiger spoke of the FCI graduation and the success of the program.
- Board Member Cislo reminded the community that details related to the bills/reimbursements can be obtained by emailing Mr. Girbach, spoke favorably of the FCI graduation, and relayed information from an MASB budget presentation.
- Board Member Fraith thanked members of the Communications Committee for the time and effort exerted to assist the Board and thanked the Board and Community for their thoughts regarding the passing of her mother-in-law.

Time of Adjournment 9:42 p.m.